

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A temporary door latch comprising
consisting of:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, and means for
normally biasing said tongue portion in a direction away from a rear end of
said handle portion being provided on said handle portion, and

a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue
portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is
compressed,

a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue
provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the
door, and

said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of
the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when
the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door
frame for the door.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~according to~~
~~Claim 2~~ further comprising:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, means for
biasing said tongue portion in a direction away from a rear end of said
handle portion being provided on said handle portion,

a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue
portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is
compressed, and

at least two ears provided at the rear end of the compressible arm to
removably secure the handle portion within a larger bore of a door latch
opening.

4. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~according to~~
~~Claim 2~~ further comprising:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, means for
biasing said tongue portion in a direction away from a rear end of said
handle portion being provided on said handle portion,

a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is compressed, and

a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue portion rearward.

5. (cancelled)

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~according to Claim 1~~ further comprising:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, and means for biasing said tongue portion in a direction away from a rear end of said handle portion being provided on said handle portion.

at least one tab provided on a cylindrical front end of said handle portion, and at least one slot provided in a rear end of said tongue portion so that each tab of the handle portion is removably received in a corresponding

slot of the tongue portion when the handle portion and tongue portion are removably secured together.

8. (currently amended) A temporary door latch according to Claim 7 6 wherein each said slot further comprises:

an elongate slot that extends parallel to a longitudinal axis of the tongue portion, and at least one intersecting slot continuous with its corresponding elongated slot and approximately perpendicular to its corresponding elongated slot.

9. (original) A temporary door latch according to Claim 7 wherein each tab of the handle portion enters an associated elongated slot on the tongue portion when the handle portion is telescopically received in the tongue portion and so that the handle portion and tongue portion are removably locked together by rotating the tongue portion so that the each tab enters an associated intersecting slot.

10. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue

portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is compressed,

a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the door,

said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door frame for the door, and

a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue portion rearward.

11. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~according to Claim 10~~ further comprising:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue

portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is compressed,

a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the door,

said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door frame for the door,

a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue portion rearward, and

at least two ears provided at the rear end of the compressible arm to removably secure the handle portion within a larger bore of a door latch opening.

12. (currently amended) A temporary door latch ~~according to Claim 10 further~~ comprising:

a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is compressed,

a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the door,

said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door frame for the door,

a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue portion rearward, and

at least one tab provided on a cylindrical front end of said handle portion, and at least one slot provided in a rear end of said tongue portion so that each tab of the handle portion is removably received in a corresponding

slot of the tongue portion when the handle portion and tongue portion are removably secured together.

13. (original) A temporary door latch according to Claim 12 wherein each said slot further comprises:

an elongate slot that extends parallel to a longitudinal axis of the tongue portion, and at least one intersecting slot continuous with its corresponding elongated slot and approximately perpendicular to its corresponding elongated slot.

14. (original) A temporary door latch according to Claim 13 wherein each tab of the handle portion enters an associated elongated slot on the tongue portion when the handle portion is telescopically received in the tongue portion and so that the handle portion and tongue portion are removably locked together by rotating the tongue portion so that the each tab enters an associated intersecting slot.